



Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 005950-843

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Patent Application of |) | Mail Stop Amendment |
| Maurice L. James et al. |) | |
| Application No.: 10/660,338 |) | Group Art Unit: 3672 |
| Filed: September 10, 2003 |) | Examiner: Philip C. Tucker |
| For: BENTONITE NODULES |) | Confirmation No.: 5989 |
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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313 -1450

Sir:

In complete response to the Office Action dated December 29, 2004, Applicants submit herewith a three month extension of time extending the period of response from March 29, 2005 until June 29, 2005 and the following Response.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this Response.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this Response.